

MARVEL



VISIONARIES

Knights of the Magical Light

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VISIONARIES™

a **STAR**™ comics presentation

DREAM MAKER

HOW HE CAME TO THIS WINDSWEEP CRAG,
OVERLOOKING A DARK AND FATHOMLESS CANYON,
WYTERQUICK DOES NOT KNOW.

HE FEELS DRIVEN,
COMPELLED BY AN
IRRESISTIBLE
EMOTION TO STRIDE
THROUGH THE
BREAKING MIST
TOWARD A
DESTINATION HE
CANNOT NAME.

THEN HE HEARS
THE VOICE...

COME TO
ME, SPECTRAL
KNIGHT...

SAVE
ME, I BEG
YOU.

AND WHATEVER
DOUBTS MAY HAVE HELD
HIM BACK QUICKLY
DROP AWAY.

GERRY CONWAY
WRITER
MARK BAGLEY
ARTIST
ROMEO TANGHAL
INKER
JANICE CHIANG
LETTERER
JULIANNA FERRITER
COLORIST
BOB BUDIANSKY
EDITOR
TOM DE FALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

ONLY YOU HAVE THE STRENGTH AND THE COURAGE TO SET ME FREE.

SHATTER THE DOOR THAT SEALS ME WITHIN THIS CRUEL PRISON.

SAVE ME FROM AN ETERNITY OF DARKNESS AND DESPAIR.

I AM SIRBNA, ONCE QUEEN OF THIS LAND, LONG AGO.

FOR AGES PAST, A DEMON HAS HELD ME IMPRISONED WITHIN THIS LOFTY PEAK.

THIS JEWEL WILL UNLOCK MY PRISON GATE.

WHO ARE YOU? WHERE ARE THE OTHER KNIGHTS? HOW DID I COME HERE?

THE LAST I KNEW, I WAS IN LEORIC'S CASTLE IN THE CITY OF NEW VALARAK... IT WAS NIGHT...

SO MANY QUESTIONS, WITTERQUICK, BUT WHAT DO THE ANSWERS MATTER?

BEHOLD, I APPEAR TO YOU IN A VISION-- BECAUSE YOUR HEART IS PURE AND BRAVE.

LOVELY-- SO LOVELY--

I KNOW THAT GEM-- THE STAR OF TIBANDRA.

IT RESTS IN THE FOREHEAD OF A GREAT STATUE NOT TEN LEAGUES FROM NEW VALARAK... OR RATHER, IT DID, IN THE DAYS BEFORE THE GREAT CHANGE FROM THE AGE OF SCIENCE TO THE AGE OF MAGIC.

IF IT'S STILL THERE, I CAN--

YOU CAN DIE, SPECTRAL KNIGHT!

MOONS OF
PRYSMOS! THE
DEMON!

NONE MAY LOOK
UPON THE BEAUTY
OF SIRENA AND
LIVE!

SHE IS
MINE--MY
PRISONER--
AND I WILL
NEVER LET
YOU STEAL
HER AWAY!

THRAW!

NEVER!

NEVER!

NO--

NOOOOOOOOOO!

LEORIC'S CASTLE...
MY BEDROOM...

IT WAS A
DREAM...

...BUT A DREAM
LIKE NO DREAM
I EVER HAD
BEFORE, LEORIC...

...SO REAL,
I ALMOST
BELIEVE IT
HAPPENED.

AND NOW YOU WANT
TO SEEK OUT
THIS "STAR OF
TISANDRA".

ONCE YOU FIND THE
JEWEL, WITTERQUICK,
WHAT WILL YOU
DO THEN?

SET HER
FREE, OF
COURSE.

YOU THINK
SHE EXISTS?

I KNOW SHE DOES. I SEE
HER MOUNTAIN PRISON IN MY
MIND AS CLEARLY AS I
SEE YOU.

DON'T ASK ME
HOW, BUT I KNOW
I'LL FIND MY WAY
TO HER SIDE.
I MUST.

IF YOU COULD HAVE HEARD
SIRENA, LEORIC, YOU'D UNDERSTAND.
SHE WAS SO DESPERATE...

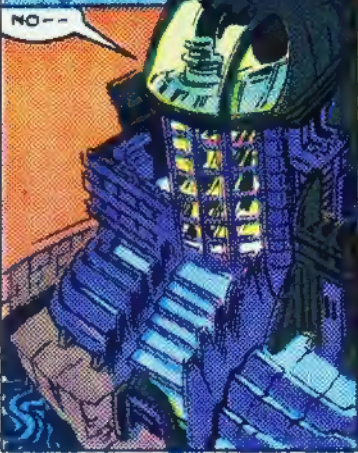
BELIEVE ME,
WITTERQUICK, I DO
UNDERSTAND THIS
DREAM, WHATEVER
IT WAS, COMPELS
YOU.

THAT COMPELSION,
AND YOUR
IMPETUOUS NATURE,
MAKE AN
IRRESISTIBLE
COMBINATION.

I WISH
YOU
LUCK.

"MY HEART FEARS YOU MAY NEED GOOD
FORTUNE MORE THAN YOU KNOW..."

AT THAT MOMENT, MILES DISTANT IN DARKSTORM'S DOMAIN, THE FORTRESS-LIKE ABODE OF THE DARKLING LORDS, SWORN ENEMIES OF LEORIC AND THE SPECTRAL KNIGHTS...



NOOOOOOoooooo!



A DREAM--



MINUTES LATER...



DARKSTORM WANTS ALL OF US TO STAY HERE WHILE HE--

OUR LEADER DARKSTORM HAS NOTHING TO SAY ABOUT THIS, MORTDRED.

GET OUT OF MY WAY, BOTH OF YOU.

POOF!



CINDARR! THIS HAS GONE QUITE FAR ENOUGH.

YOU KNOW THE RULES. NO ONE LEAVES THE CASTLE COMPOUND WITHOUT **PERSONAL** PERMISSION FROM LORD DARKSTORM. WE CAN'T LET YOU GO.



FOR ONCE I AGREE WITH MORTDRED.

WE'RE ON THE VERGE OF A MAJOR ASSAULT AGAINST THE SPECTRAL KNIGHTS. EVERY DARKLING LORD IS NEEDED HERE.

EVEN YOU, CINDARR.



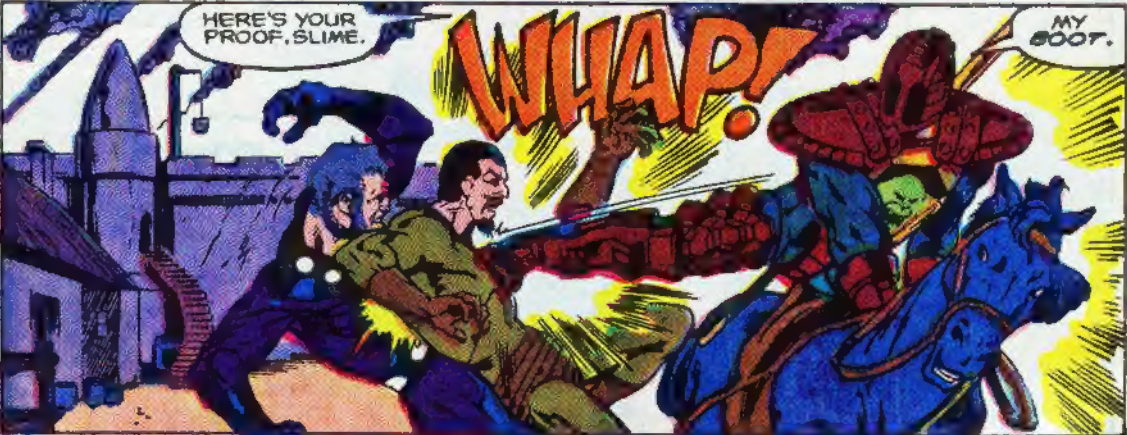
WHAT IF I TOLD YOU I DO HAVE DARKSTORM'S PERMISSION, REEKON?

I DON'T LIKE THIS. I NEVER SAW CINDARR SO DETERMINED. HE'S LIKE A MAN POSSESSED.



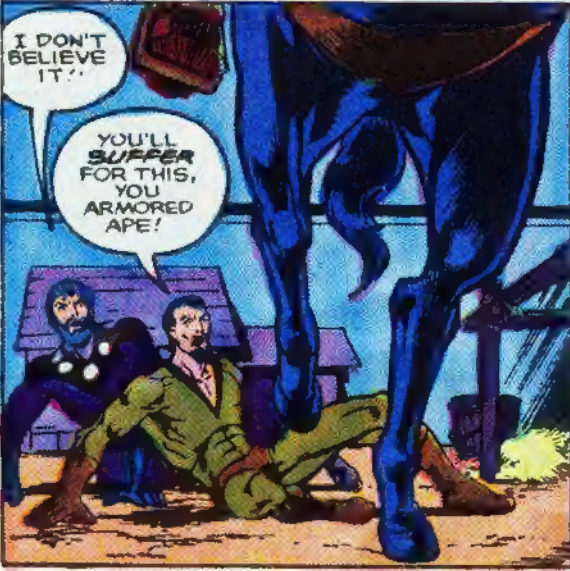
YOU SAY DARKSTORM KNOWS OF YOUR LEAVING? LET'S SEE PROOF.

HERE'S YOUR PROOF, SLIME.



I DON'T BELIEVE IT!!

YOU'LL SUFFER FOR THIS, YOU ARMORED APE!



REEKON, WHAT SHOULD WE DO--- GO AFTER HIM?

AND RISK DARKSTORM'S WRATH FOR LEAVING THE CASTLE OURSELVES?

THAT'S JUST THE KIND OF IMBECILIC SUGGESTION I'D EXPECT YOU TO MAKE, MORTDRED.



NO. CINDARR HAS CHOSEN HIS PATH. HE'LL SOON FIND OUT WHERE IT LEADS.

INTERLUDE

FAR FROM BOTH NEW VALARAK AND DARKSTORM'S DOMAIN, IN THE COLD AND WIND-BEATEN REACHES OF THE NORTHERN HILLS, A STRANGE DOUBLE PEAK RISES FROM THE CLOUDS LIKE THE HORNED HELMET OF SOME ANCIENT STONE GIANT...

BEHIND A GREEN-ENCRUSTED DOOR OF GOLD AND BRONZE THERE LIES A DEEP CAVERN.

WITHIN THE CAVERN THERE IS A THRONE.

UPON THE THRONE THERE SITS A WOMAN.

COME TO ME, SPECTRAL KNIGHT.

COME TO ME, DARKLING LORD.

LET HE WHO IS STRONGEST AND MOST WORTHY WIN ME THE "STAR OF TISANDRA".

BE MY CHAMPION, KNIGHT OR LORD, AS FATE MAY DECREE.

DESTROY MY GUARDIAN, SHATTER MY GATE, BE MY CHAMPION, AND SET ME FREE.

ONCE, DURING THE AGE OF SCIENCE, THE ANCIENT STATUE IN THIS MOUNTAIN PASS WAS A POPULAR TOURIST ATTRACTION FOR HIGHWAY TRAVELERS MAKING THE JOURNEY FROM WEST KLAYIN TO EAST ROGOL...

TIMES HAVE CHANGED, AND WHAT ONCE WAS A HIGHWAY IS NOW AN ABANDONED RUIN, SITE OF A RAGTAG VILLAGE RULED BY A POWERFUL WARLORD.

EVEN SO, THE STATUE REMAINS... ITS ORIGINS AS MYSTERIOUS AS EVER...

THE LOCALS CALLED THIS ANCIENT GIANT OF TARNISHED METAL "THE BRONZE WARRIOR."

ACCORDING TO THE LEGEND, THE WARRIOR WAS ERECTED DURING THE LAST AGE OF MAGIC. NO ONE KNOWS.

THESE DAYS, NO ONE CARES.

WHERE IS THE TRIBUTE YOUR PEOPLE OWE ME, SLAVE?

PLEASE, MASTER KAVOR, WE ARE SO POOR, WE BARELY HAVE FOOD TO FEED OUR CHILDREN...

WHAT DO I CARE ABOUT YOUR CHILDREN, FOOL?

MY MEN AND I PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR YOUR VILLAGE AGAINST THE BRIGANDS WHO TERRORIZE THESE MOUNTAIN PASSES.

ALL WE ASK IN RETURN IS RESPECT AND TRIBUTE.

INSTEAD YOU GIVE US EXCUSES.

HERE IS WHAT I THINK OF YOUR EXCUSES, SLAVE.

WHAM!

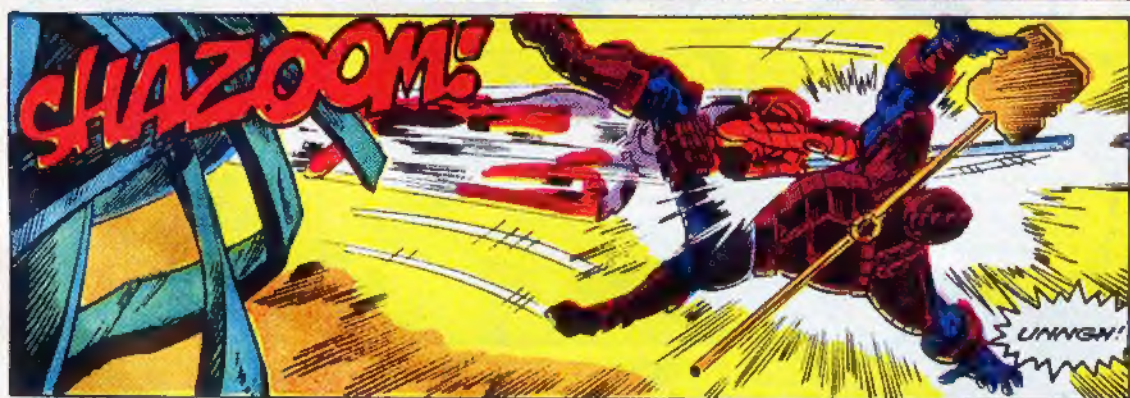
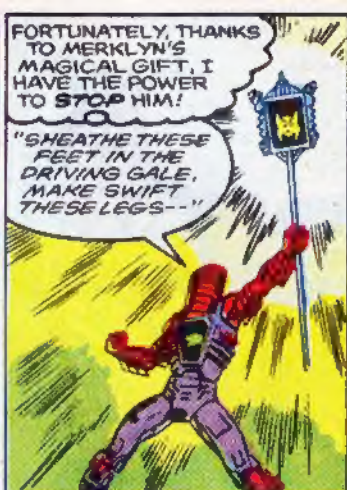
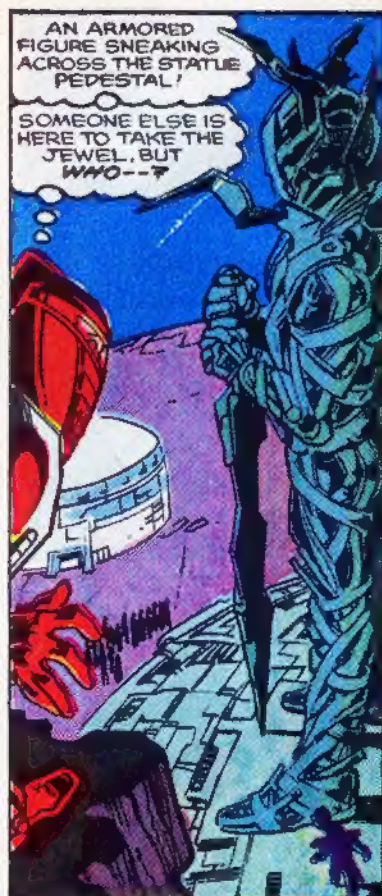
UHHH...

THAT MONSTER! KAVOR IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF BRUTAL WARLORD LEORIC ASSEMBLED THE SPECTRAL KNIGHTS TO DEFEAT.

I SHOULD-- NO...

I CAME HERE TO GET THE "STAR OF TISANDRA."

KAVOR WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL-- EH?



I ASSURE YOU, YOU WON'T DO THAT AGAIN

AS FOR THE "STAR"--WHAT I WANT WITH IT IS MY AFFAIR, THOUGH I'LL TELL YOU THIS--

--A LADY'S FREEDOM IS AT STAKE

A LADY? YOU LIE

SIRENA CHOSE ME TO BE HER CHAMPION. SHE CAME IN A DREAM. SHE'D NEVER SEEK HELP FROM THE LIKES OF YOU.

YOU INSULT ME TWICE.

I'LL HAVE YOUR HEART FOR THAT, SPECTRAL--

ENT?

LOOK OUT!

WHAT--?

WHILE YOU AND I WASTED TIME ARGUING, FOL, WE DREW SOME UNWELCOME ATTENTION

I SUGGEST WE PUT OUR DIFFERENCES ASIDE FOR THE MOMENT-- DO YOU AGREE?

RELUCTANTLY.

THEN STAND BACK, WHILE I RECITE MY SPELL--POEM OF DESTRUCTION!

"BY NATURE'S HAND, BY CRAFTS, BY ART, WHAT ONCE WAS ONE--"

"--NOW FLY APART!"

THARUMMBLE

FOR LONG SECONDS, THE EARTH SHAUDERS
LIKE A GIANT TOUCHED WITH FEVER--

-- AND IN THE
RESULTING CHAOS,
DARKLING LORD AND
SPECTRAL KNIGHT
MAKE GOOD
THEIR
ESCAPE, EACH
TAKING A
SEPARATE
PATH--

RUMBLE

-- LEAVING BEHIND ONE VERY
INDIGNANT LOCAL WARLORD.

HUNT THEM DOWN! FIND
THEM AND BRING THEM TO
ME IN CHAINS!

I'LL HAVE THEIR
HIDES STUFFED FOR
FOOT-PILLOWS!

YOU SAID YOU'D
PROTECT US,
KAVOR. THAT'S
WHY YOU DEMAND
TRIBUTE...

DON'T DARE DOUBT
ME, FOOL. I'M STILL
THE STRONGEST
FIGHTER IN THESE
MOUNTAINS.

WHEN I'M
FINISHED WITH
THOSE WOULD-BE
THIEVES THEY'LL
BEG FOR DEATH.

AND IF I FEEL
MERCIFUL, DEATH
IS WHAT I'LL
GIVE THEM

FINDING HIMSELF A LEDGE,
WHERE NONE BUT A
MOUNTAIN GOAT MIGHT
DISCOVER HIM, WITTERQUICK
PALSES WEARILY FOR A
MUCH-NEEDED REST...

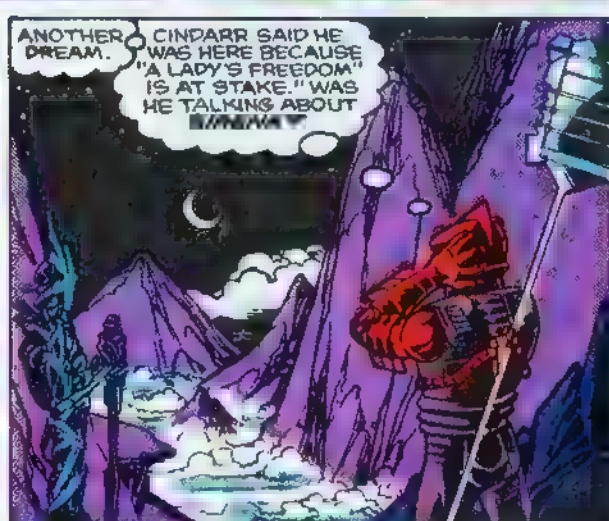
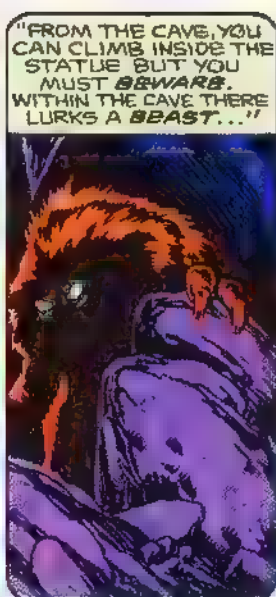
... AND IN SPITE OF HIMSELF,
FINDS HIS EYELIDS GROWING
EVER MORE HEAVY, UNTIL
THE EFFORT TO REMAIN
AWAKE BECOMES TOO
GREAT...

AND HE
DREAMS.

BRAVE
WARRIOR, HAVE
YOU COME SO
FAR AND SO
CLOSE ONLY
TO DESPAIR
NOW?

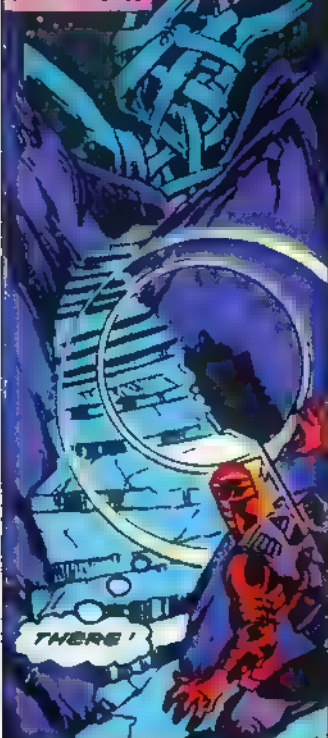
NO, I DO NOT
BELIEVE IT.
I WILL NOT
BELIEVE IT.

BUT HOW CAN I
REACH THE JEWEL
WHEN IT'S SO
HEAVILY GUARDED--
AND THERE'S
CINDARRA TO
CONSIDER--



MINUTES CRAWL BY, AS THE YOUNG SPECTRAL KNIGHT MAKES HIS WAY DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THE MOUNTAIN.

FOLLOWING THE PATH HE SAW IN HIS DREAM, UNTIL AT LAST IT TURNS UPWARD...



I MADE IT UNDERNEATH THE STATUE--AND THERE'S STILL NO SIGN OF THE BEAST SIRENA WARNED ME ABOUT--

RAWWR

ARRRRH!

CINDARR--
RUNNING
BY--



-- USING ME AS
A DISTRACTION
TO GET PAST
THE BEAST!

I'LL MAKE MY
OWN DISTRACTION--
CHANGE TO MY
ANIMAL PERSONA--
THE CHEETAH--



WITTERQUICK LEAPS
FREE, AND FOR AN
INSTANT,
HESITATES
AS IF LOST

THEN HE RECOVERS,
SPRINTING THROUGH
DARKNESS LIKE A WILD
ANIMAL SEEKING
RELEASE FROM A CAGE



BEHIND HIM
THE BEAST
DROPS BACK
ALMOST
WHINING.

WHEN HE REACHED THE OUTSIDE, HE RETURNS TO HUMAN FORM ALL BUT UNWILLINGLY...

CINDARR'S GOT THE JEWEL!

BUT HOW DID HE FIND THE PATH TO THAT HIDDEN CAVE? SIRENA SAID CINDARR DIDN'T MATTER--

SUDDENLY--

SLIFT

WHAT--?

I'VE STILL GOT A CHANCE!

"SHEATHE THESE FEET IN THE DRIVING GALE--"

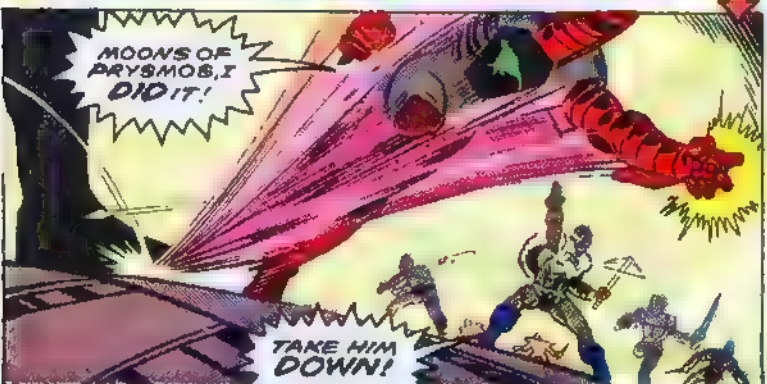
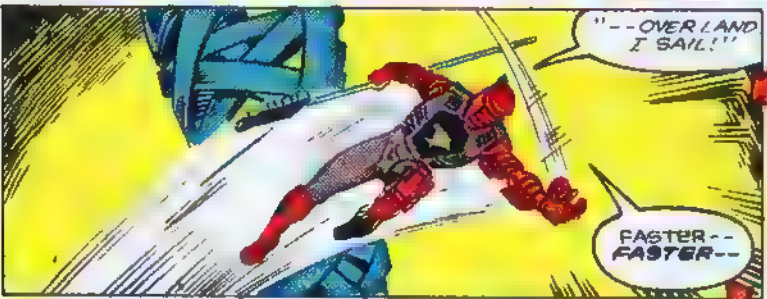
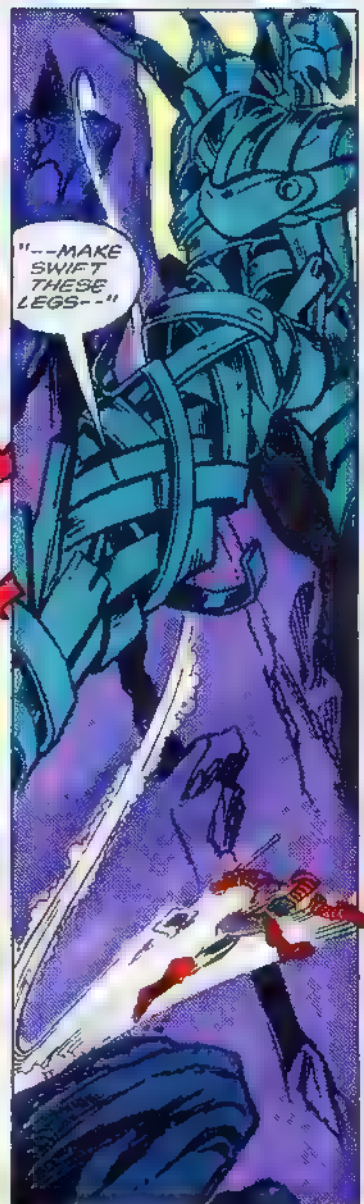
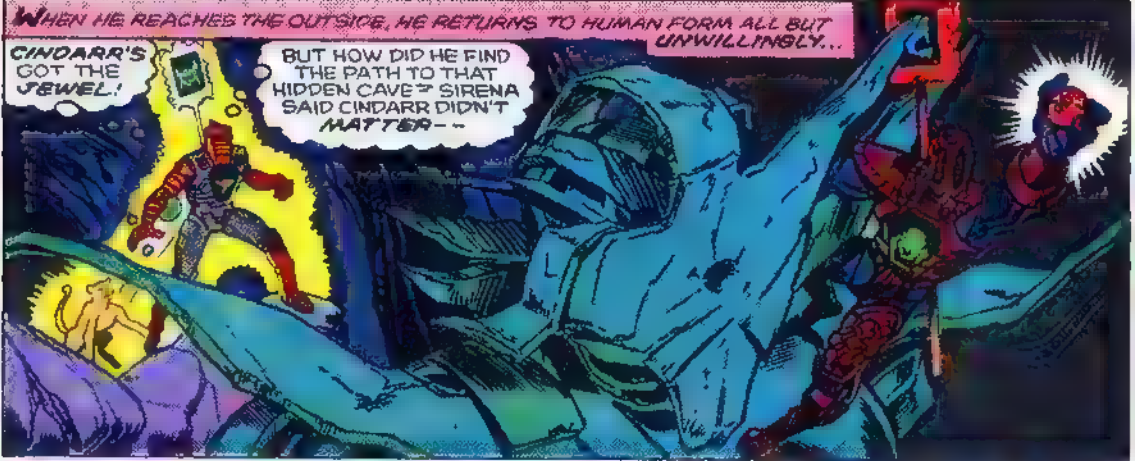
"--MAKE SWIFT THESE LEGS--"

"--OVER LAND I SAIL!"

FASTER--
FASTER--

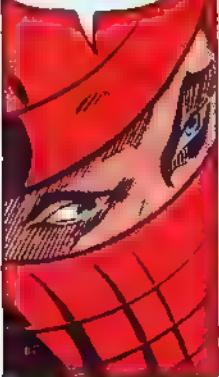
MOONS OF PRYSMOS, I DID IT!

TAKE HIM DOWN!



PETTY TYRANT! YOU'VE TERRORIZED HELPLESS VILLAGERS SO LONG. YOU THINK YOU'RE SOME KIND OF MASTER WARRIOR

BUT YOU'RE NOT FACING A FRIGHTENED VILLAGER NOW, WARLORD



YOU'RE DEALING WITH ME, WITTERQUICK



MY FATHER WAS A WARRIOR, MY MOTHER A MASTER ATHLETE.

I'M A KNIGHT OF THE SPECTRAL LIGHT--

SLAK

SLAK

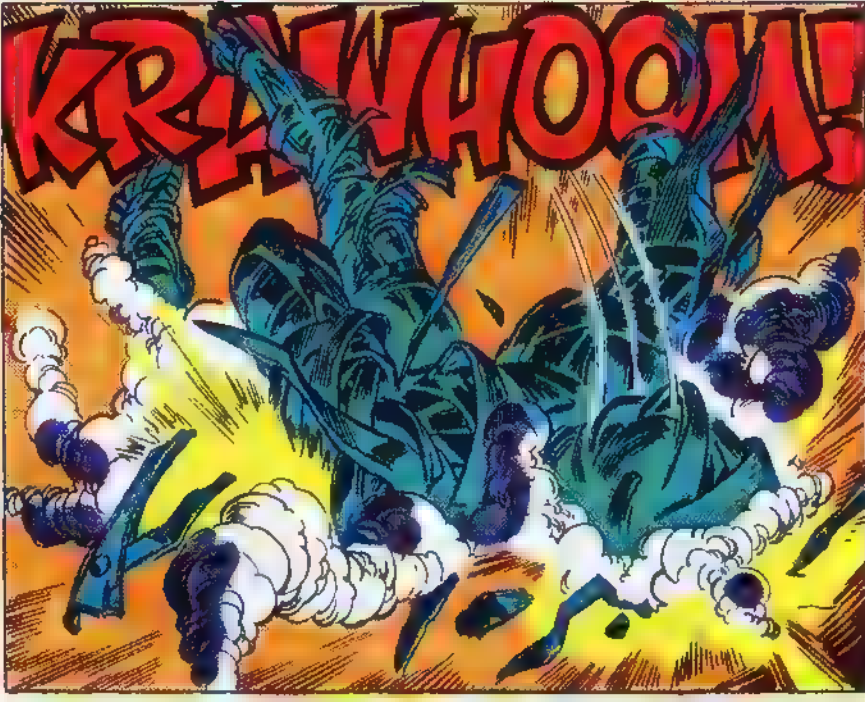


NO!

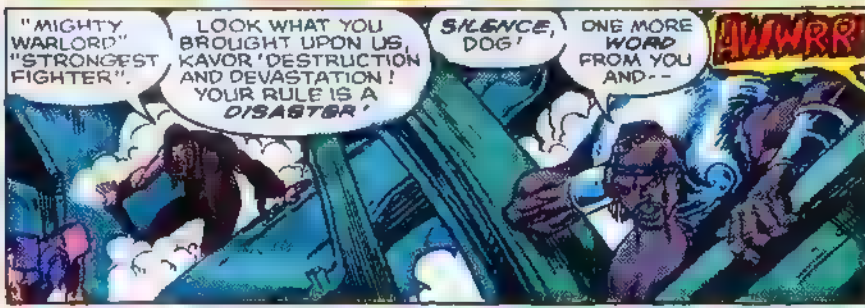


-- AND NO ONE TAKES ME DOWN!

NO ONE!



KRAWHOOOM!



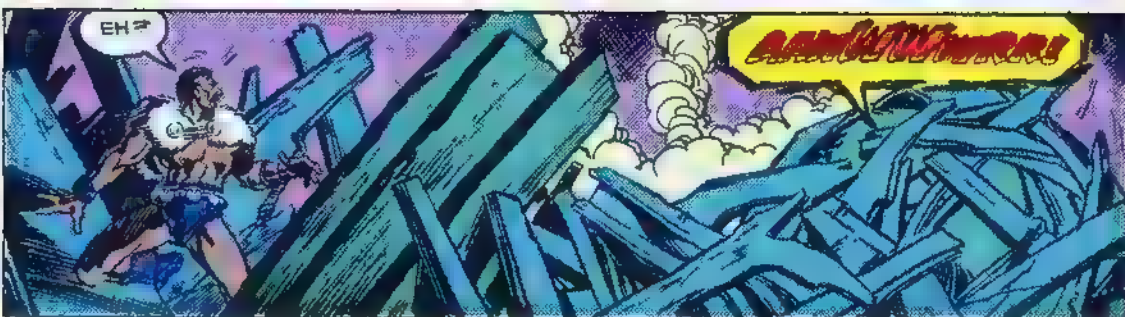
"MIGHTY WARLORD" "STRONGEST FIGHTER"

LOOK WHAT YOU BROUGHT UPON US KAVOR 'DESTRUCTION AND DEVASTATION! YOUR RULE IS A DISASTER'

SILENCE, DOG!

ONE MORE WORD FROM YOU AND--

AAWRR!

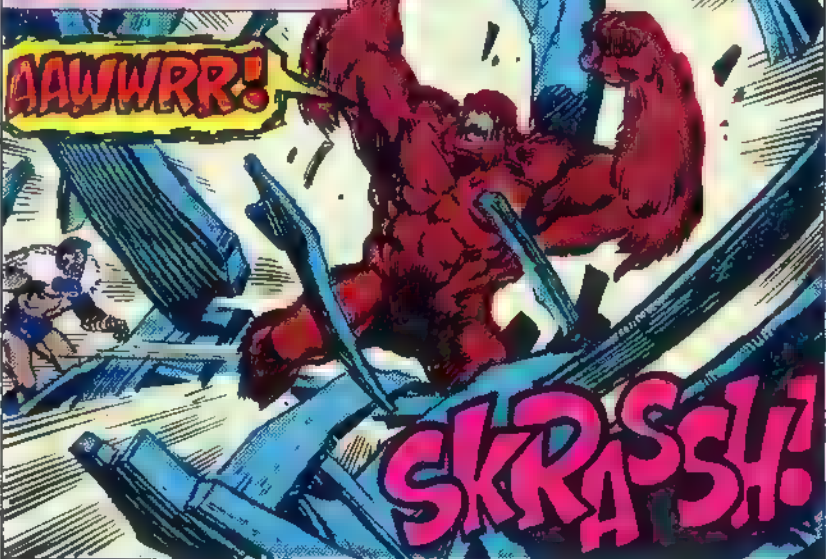


AAWWRR!

IN HIS MAGICAL PERSONA, WITTERQUICK BECOMES A CHEETAH, REFLECTING HIS LOVE OF SPEED; CINDARR, PHYSICALLY THE MOST BRUTAL OF THE DARKLING LORDS, TAKES ON A MAGICAL PERSONA EQUALLY SUITED TO HIS PERSONALITY--

--THAT OF THE GIANT RED GORILLA, LARGEST AND MOST FEROCIOUS PRIMATE IN ALL THE SOUTHERN JUNGLE.

AAWWRR!



SKRASH!

IT'S AN INSPIRING SIGHT.

WAARRR

DON'T KILL ME



PLEASE

A WARLORD RULES BY FEAR AND INTIMIDATION. KAVOR KNOWS.

LET THE WARLORD SHOW FEAR, AND HIS RULE IS OVER

KAVOR'S RULE IS OVER HE'LL FEEL BAD ABOUT THAT LATER.



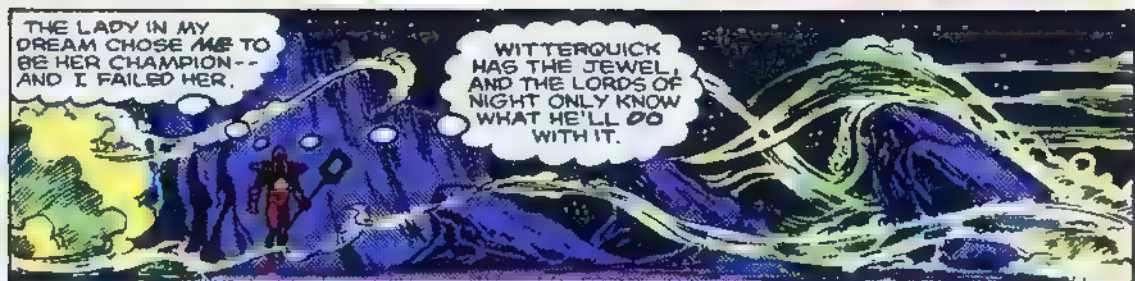
RIGHT NOW, THE WARLORD IS JUST GRATEFUL TO BE ALIVE.

IF YOU ASK CINDARR WHY HE CHOSE TO HUMILIATE THE WARLORD, HE COULD NOT TELL YOU; FRUSTRATION, PERHAPS, FOR LOSING THE "STAR" TO WITTERQUICK.



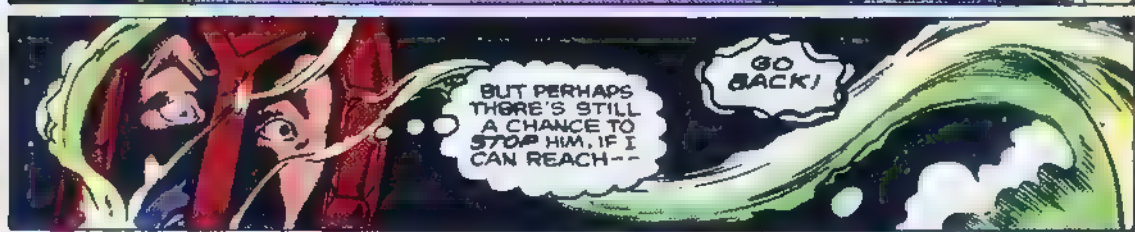
FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL HOURS, CINDARR FOLLOWS THE ROUTE FROM HIS DREAM MEMORY, HOPING TO CATCH UP WITH THE FEET-FOOTED SPECTRAL KNIGHT...

BUT AS HE NEARS THE TWIN PEAKS OF SIRENA'S PRISON, HE KNOWS IN HIS HEART THAT HE'S TOO LATE.



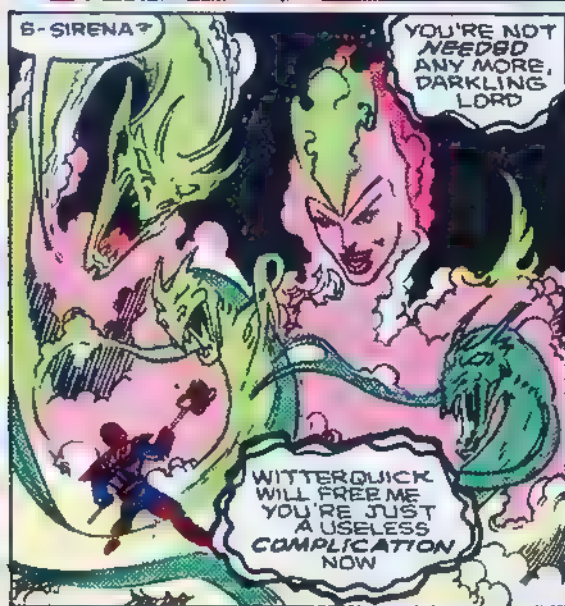
THE LADY IN MY DREAM CHOSE ME TO BE HER CHAMPION-- AND I FAILED HER.

WITTERQUICK HAS THE JEWEL, AND THE LORDS OF NIGHT ONLY KNOW WHAT HE'LL DO WITH IT.



BUT PERHAPS THERE'S STILL A CHANCE TO STOP HIM, IF I CAN REACH--

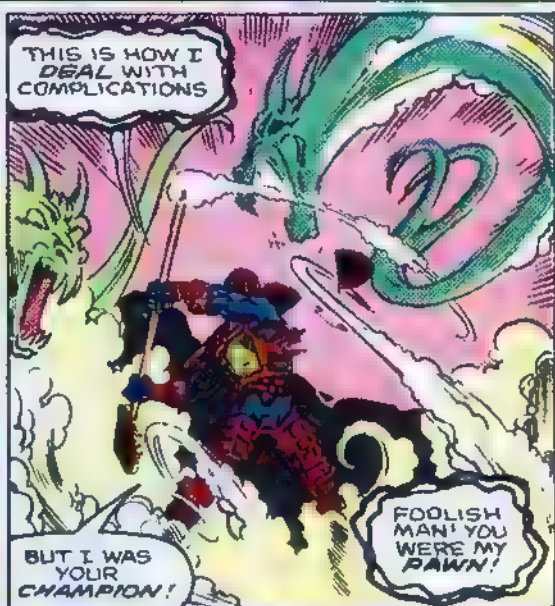
GO BACK!



S-SIRENA?

YOU'RE NOT NEEDED ANY MORE, DARKLING LORD

WITTERQUICK WILL FREE ME YOU'RE JUST A USELESS COMPLICATION NOW



THIS IS HOW I DEAL WITH COMPLICATIONS

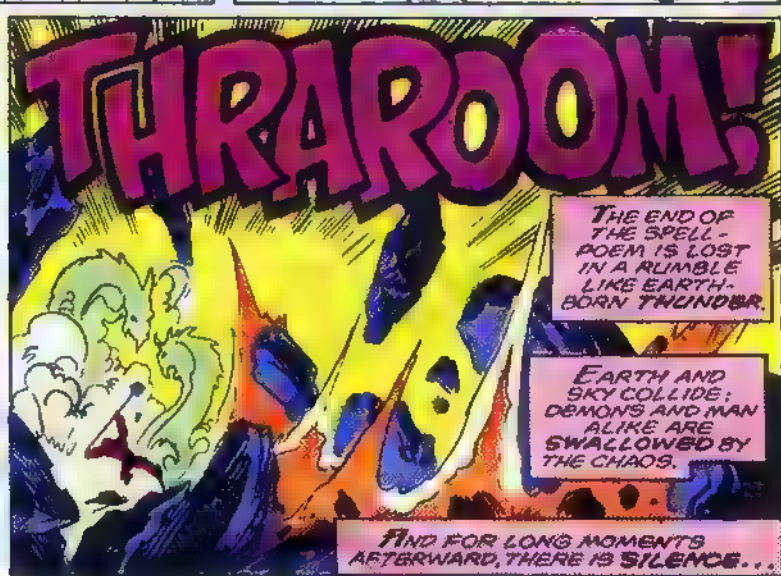
BUT I WAS YOUR CHAMPION!

FOOLISH MAN! YOU WERE MY PAWN!



THESE DEMONS ARE REAL-- THIS IS NO DREAM! ONLY ONE WAY TO FIGHT THEM-- IF I HAVE TIME!

"BY NATURE'S HAND, BY CRAFTS, BY ART, WHAT ONCE WAS ONE--"



THRAROOM!

THE END OF THE SPELL-POEM IS LOST IN A RUMBLE LIKE EARTH-BORN THUNDER.

EARTH AND SKY COLLIDE; DEMONS AND MAN ALIKE ARE SWALLOWED BY THE CHAOS.

AND FOR LONG MOMENTS AFTERWARD, THERE IS SILENCE...

MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE THE STONE SLAB THAT BARS THE ENTRANCE TO SIRENA'S MOUNTAIN PRISON.

BACK, MORTAL!

I WARN THEE BUT ONCE-- WHAT LIES IN YON CRYPT IS NOT FOR THINE EYES TO SEE!

YOU CAN'T STOP ME, DEMON! I COME TO FREE A LADY!

YOU COME TO FREE A WITCH.

FOR A THOUSAND YEARS HAVE I STOOD GUARD OVER HER TOMB, O MORTAL MAN!

SWAK!

UHHH!

FOR A THOUSAND YEARS HAVE I PROTECTED THE WORLD FROM HER EVIL.

I WILL NOT LET THEE RELEASE HER NOW.

MY ARMOR PROTECTED ME FROM THE DEMON'S AXE-- BLOW LUCKY HE DIDN'T STRIKE EDGE-ON.

WHY DIDN'T HE, I WONDER?

IT DOESN'T MATTER SIRENA NEEDS ME

THIS DEMON DOESN'T KNOW HOW FAST I CAN MOVE.

HE'S ABOUT TO FIND OUT!

THWACK!

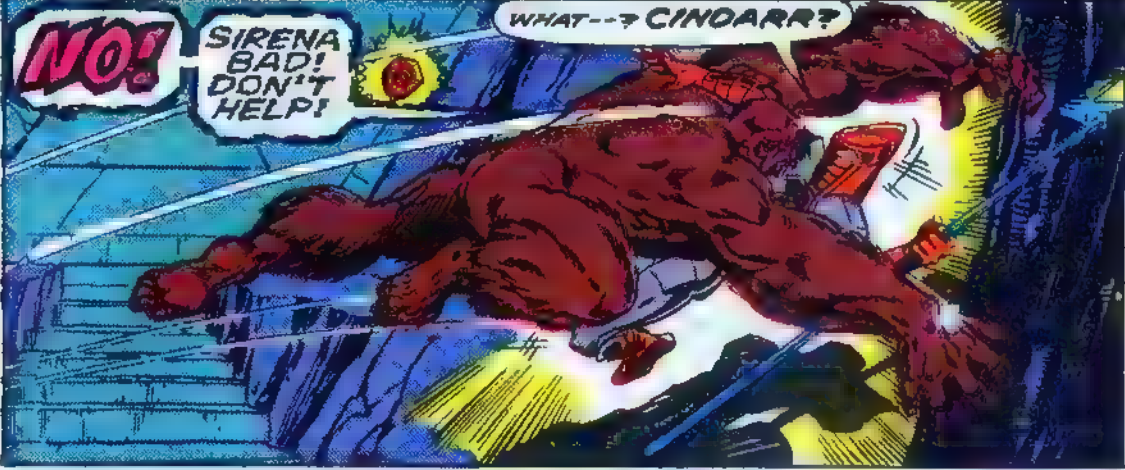
THAT WAS EASIER THAN I HOPED. STRANGE THAT HE DIDN'T CUT ME DOWN WHEN HE HAD THE CHANCE.

WHAT WAS THAT HE SAID ABOUT SIRENA BEING A WITCH?

LIES.

I KNOW WHAT I HAVE TO DO

USE THE JEWEL-- BREAK THE SEAL-- SET SIRENA FREE--



NO!

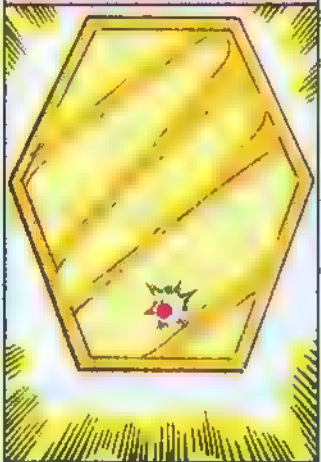
**SIRENA
BAD!
DON'T
HELP!**

WHAT---? CINDARR?

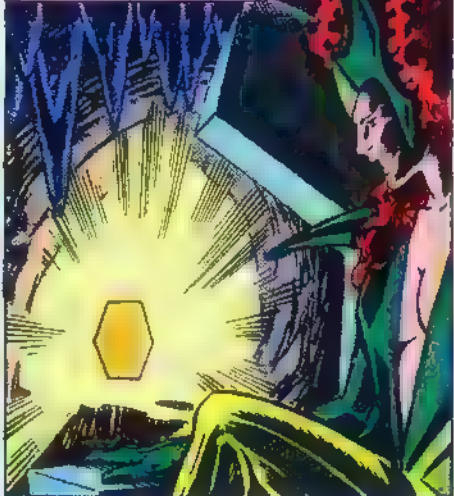
**RELEASED AS MAN AND
BEAST CRASH TOGETHER,
THE "STAR OF TISANDRA"
FALLS FOR AN INSTANT--
THEN SUDDENLY FLOATS
UPWARD, LIKE A LEAF
BORNE ON A BREEZE...**



**AS IT TOUCHES THE
HEAVY STONE SLAB
BARRICADING THE
ENTRANCE TO SIRENA'S
PRISON, THE JEWEL GLOWS
WITH UNEARTHLY LIGHT--**



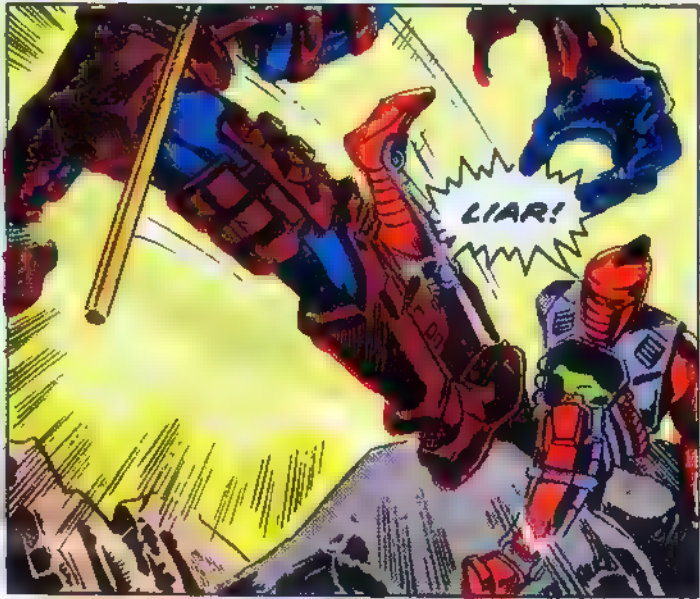
**---AND ON HER THRONE
WITHIN THE DARKENED
CAVE, SIRENA SEES THE
LIGHT AND SMILES**



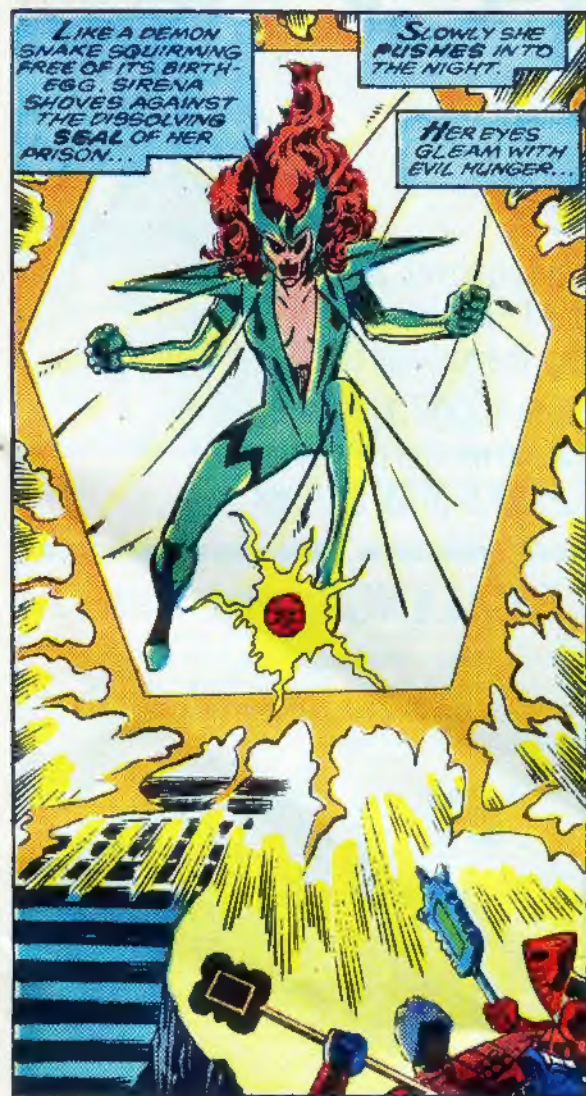
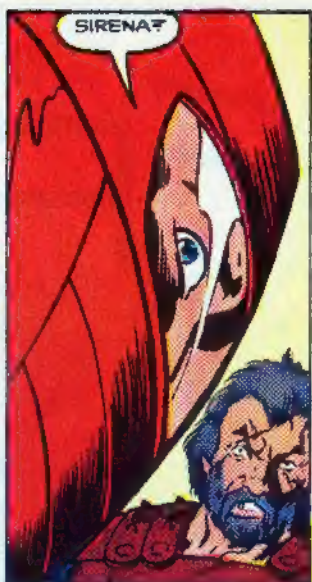
**STOP!
WITCH
LIE--**

**SHE LIED TO BOTH OF
US! ALL SHE WANTS IS
THE JEWEL! SHE DOESN'T
CARE WHICH OF US
BECOMES HER CHAMPION!**

**ONCE SHE HAS THE
JEWEL, WE'LL BE
NOTHING TO HER!**



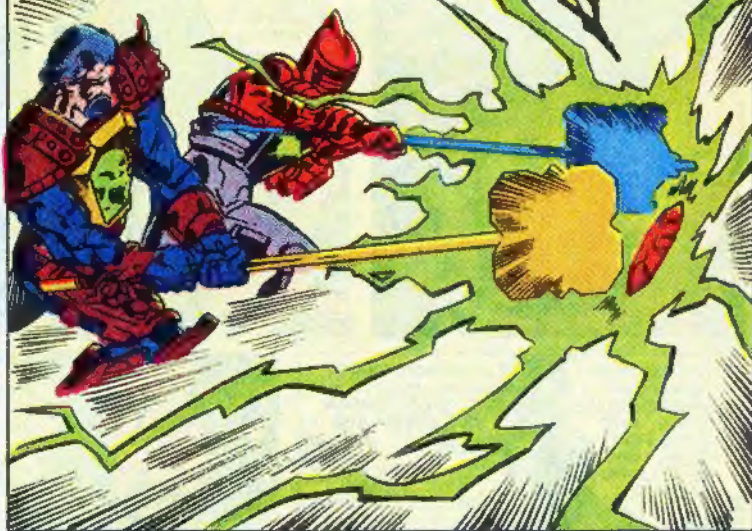
LIAR!



WITTERQUICK! CINDARR!

MY CHAMPIONS,
MY LOVES--I
BEG YOU--

-DON'T!



WHAT SOUND
THERE IS IS
BEYOND HUMAN
HEARING.

FOR A THOUSAND
MILES IN ALL
DIRECTIONS THE
NIGHT TURNS
BRIGHT AS DAY FOR
ONE TERRIBLE
SECOND.

IN NEW VALARAAK AND
DARKSTORM'S DOMAIN,
MEN AND WOMEN WAKE
SHAKING AS THE EARTH
SHUDDERS BENEATH
THEM.

AT LAST THE
TREMBLING
STOPS.

AND FROM THE
RUBBLE THAT ONCE
WAS SIRENA'S PRISON,
TWO BATTERED
FIGURES RISE, EACH
HELPING THE
OTHER STAND...

FOR A MOMENT, THEIR EYES LOCK,
AND WHAT PASSES BETWEEN THEM
IS SOMETHING LIKE RESPECT AND
UNDERSTANDING.

WELL.

INDEED.





VISIONARIES™



Letters Page

BOB BUDIAANSKY: EDITOR — DWAYNE MCDUFFIE: ASSISTANT EDITOR
C/O MARVEL COMICS-387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH-NEW YORK, NEW YORK-10016
ATTENTION CORRESPONDENTS: IF YOU DON'T WANT YOUR FULL ADDRESS PRINTED, PLEASE BE SURE TO TELL US SO!

Dear Visionaries,

Issue #1 was fantastic... so wonderful that I bought two copies. When I wear out the first one from reading it so much, I'll start on the second! The story was interesting, the pencils by Mark Bagley were terrific, and the inks by Romeo Tanghal were appealing to the eye. The coloring by Julianna Ferrier was beautiful, and made the interior of the Iron Mountain even spookier.

VISIONARIES is the first STAR comic to have a giant-sized first issue, and that only made it better. You've got a winner on your hands. I think that there are lots of neat things you can do with the Visionaries and their medieval/futuristic world. Having both primitive and advanced technology in the same setting is pretty interesting, too.

By the way, this book had better be an unlimited series. If it's not, I'm going to be very upset.

I have a few suggestions for the letters page title, including: 1) Holo-Grams 2) Page to Prysmos 3) Writes to the Magical Light. So what do you think?

Jeff Mardie
(No address given)

"Writes to the..." Aargh! No, actually, that's pretty good, Jeff. As you can see, we're still in the process of picking a title for the letters page, and any suggestions you have are appreciated.

VISIONARIES is indeed an "unlimited" series, and you can even subscribe and have it mailed straight to your home. Just send your name and address, along with a check or money order for \$12 (\$15 for Canada and foreign countries), to: Subscription Dept./Visionaries Marvel Comics 387 Park Avenue South New York, NY 10016

Thanks for the drawing of Merkllyn you sent. We can't print it, but it looks fabulous hanging on our office wall.

Dear Visionaries,

I love the VISIONARIES comic book. I have a few questions for you, too.

1) How is a mollusk supposed to battle a lion?

2) Is VISIONARIES going to be monthly or bi-monthly?

3) Is VISIONARIES going to have a letter column?

Scott Foy
(No address given)

1) Very carefully, Scott. Actually, Darkstorm has always been a slimy kinda guy, and his mollusk totem reflects his personality. He's treacherous enough that you can count on Leoric having plenty of trouble dealing with Darkstorm.

2) It's bi-monthly.

3) We haven't quite decided about this letters page thing yet, Scott, but if we do have one, we'll let you know. Maybe even print your letter... who knows?

Dear Bob, Jim, Mark, Romeo and all,

VISIONARIES #1 is one of the best comic book titles I have read in ages. In fact, VISIONARIES is one of the most unusual, magical, stunning, interesting and hot comic books published today. You people have granted my wish for an unusual comic, a book I wait for breathlessly every two months. And that brings me to my other point. Two months is a long time to expect me to hold my breath! I know this book can't go monthly right now, but maybe if lots of people buy it and we all write in and ask for a monthly book... good idea, huh?

Thank you so much for creating the VISIONARIES comic book, you miracle workers, you. Give yourselves 50, no, 100 gold stars (get it, STARS, heh, heh).

Maurice Jackson Jr.
6300 S. Fountain St.
Seattle, WA 48178

Aw, gee, Maurice, thanks. Only one problem... where in this crowded office are we going to fit 100 gold stars? Maybe you could send small ones?

Dear Bob,

I would like to congratulate you on an excellent comic book, VISIONARIES. I love it... with great story and great art, who wouldn't?

I did want to ask if it is going to be a cartoon on T.V., because if it is, I want to watch it. Oh, yeah, if you have a letter column, you could call it "Outer Visions," maybe.

Mark M.
7819 W. Saint Joe Hwy,
Lansing, MI 48917

Right now, VISIONARIES isn't a regular cartoon, Mark. There is a mini-series, though, and you can write to your local television station and ask them when the mini-series will be shown in your area. It may already have been televised. Thanks for the letters page suggestion, too.

Dear Visionaries,

I am the proud owner of VISIONARIES: KNIGHTS OF THE MAGICAL LIGHT issue #1. I believe this comic could be the beginning of yet another great relationship between Marvel and comic junkies. Unfortunately, I was sent to the other side of the world, where this particular comic is not. I am currently in Korea, compliments of my employer, the U.S. Air Force, so I'm going to subscribe to VISIONARIES to make sure I get my copies!

About Merkllyn. Magic incarnate? Interesting. Personality, I don't like him. Neutral forces who escalate the never-ending war between good and evil are a pain. I'm not necessarily implying that Darkstorm is evil. He might be the man to put Prysmos back on its feet, but Merkllyn is too vital to VISIONARIES not to choose sides. Does he really not care?

Anyway, thank you for the great comic. I look forward eagerly to the next issue.

Brian Krey Thompson
PSC Box 596
APO San Francisco 96324

Thank you, Krey, for your comments and suggestions. One thing you should remember, though, is that these heroes haven't been just "average dudes" for quite some time now. By the time they gained their magical totems, they all had plenty of down-and-dirty fighting experience. As for Merkllyn, hate to say this, but... wait and see. He's not about to declare for either side anytime soon, though.

To the Whole Crew,

Success, total success on VISIONARIES. I am impressed. I knew that you'd do a great job, with lots of action, and I was right. The best part is that each of the characters has his or her own personality. The good guys aren't perfect, and the bad guys aren't pure evil. They seem more human this way.

I'd especially like to thank Mark Bagley and Julianna Ferrier for the wonderful art and colors. Jim Salicrup deserves a lot of credit for an awesome story.

Keep the crew the same, and you'll have a comic to rival even GI JOE. Good Luck!

Jonathan D.A. Lustig
260 Jules Dr.
Staten Island, NY 10314

Glad ya liked it, Jonathan, but what do you mean "rival GI JOE," eh? VISIONARIES hasn't replaced GI JOE as your favorite? No? I guess we have no choice but to try even harder to make VISIONARIES even greater.

Dear Romeo, Mark and Jim,

I just finished reading VISIONARIES issue #1, and I gotta tell you, Jim, the script was wonderful. I liked the scene where the Visionaries received their totems. Mark, the pencils were 100% all the way. The Knights looked terrific. Romeo, the inks were great. Your hard work really shows. I know that the upcoming issues will only get better, 'cause you guys are a great team. That's what I like.

Bobby Cabo
83-85 116th St. Apt. 2-M
Queens, NY 11418

That's what we like, too, Bobby. You're right about the upcoming issues getting better, too, as we all learn more about the Knights of Prysmos and their magical world. Keep those letters coming, and let us know what's good, what's bad and why... and what we can do to make the VISIONARIES even better.